

5 **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR COLLECTING AND POOLING
UNQUALIFIED BATCHES OF MAIL FOR PRE-SORTING**

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

10 A method and system is provided for collecting relatively
small batches of mail that, alone, would not qualify for mailing at a pre-
sorted postage rate and pooling them together with others for pre-sorting
into a qualified batch of pre-sorted mail. The inventive method involves
transporting mail in a traceable container to a holding facility where it is
15 pooled with others for pickup and processing by a mail pre-sorting
business. The mail may be metered at a reduced program rate. The
system creates a cooperative of participating mail senders working
together to earn a lower effective postage rate. The method further
provides a solution to the technical problem of postal sorting equipment
20 that is overburdened by medium-sized batches of unsorted mail. The
solution identifies and diverts such batches for processing at a separate
facility before the batch is tendered to the postal service.